

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Withdrawn) A paint pad comprising, in combination, a main body portion, and a backing portion, with said body having an exterior surface portion for contacting surfaces to be painted, said body portion being made from a paint-absorbent, open cell flexible foam material, with said cells forming pores of sufficient size to retain a thixotropic paint, said body also including a large plurality of small diameter, paint-receiving wells formed therein, said wells extending inwardly from said exterior surface of said paint pad and terminating at closed off end portions with said pad body, said wells being of larger diameter than said pores in said foam material and being positioned in closely spaced apart relation within said pad body so as to provide additional paint retention capacity relative to a body without such wells.

2. (Withdrawn) A paint pad as defined in claim 1 wherein said paint pad is circular in plan and wherein said exterior surface portion is convex, said pad backing portion comprising a relatively stiff but resilient thermoplastic sheet material.

3. (Withdrawn) A paint pad as defined in claim 1 wherein said main body portion of said pad comprises axially inner and outer layers, said exterior surface of said body being convex and arranged so that said outer layer comprises the center portion of said pad exterior surface and said inner layer forms an outer margin of said exterior surface with said axially

outer layer being made from a material having larger size pores than those comprising said axially inner layer.

4. (Currently amended) A paint applicator pad adapted to be rotated in use to apply a band of paint to a first surface lying adjacent a second perpendicularly disposed surface, said band of paint having a sharp trim edge portion and an opposed feather edge portion of reduced thickness, said pad having a center portion adapted to be received over a spindle, said pad being of circular form in plan and having ~~[[a]]~~ an applicator pad body portion made from a paint absorbent, open cell foam material, said pad having a generally convex exterior working face and having laminated to its opposite face a relatively stiff body backing portion, said backing portion and said applicator pad body portion having outer margins constructed and arranged so as to converge adjacent the outermost portion of said ~~backer~~ backing portion, said body portion ~~tapering toward and~~ joining said backing portion at said outermost edge of said backing portion to define a trim edge forming portion of said applicator pad body.

5. (Currently amended) An applicator pad as defined in claim 4 wherein said pad body comprises two layers of foam material, ~~each~~ one layer having a ~~different~~ coarser porosity and the other layer having a finer porosity, with the finer porosity layer having ~~an exposed~~ a portion lying radially outwardly of the ~~portion comprising a~~ layer having said coarser porosity.

6. (Currently amended) A composite rotary pad for forming a sharp trim edge on a band of paint applied to a first surface and to form a

feather edge opposite said trim edge, said composite pad including a backing portion made from a stiff but resilient material and having a generally flat, center section and presenting a circular appearance in a plan, an outer shoulder including an axial portion and a radially outwardly extending flange portion, said radially outwardly extending radial flange portion terminating in a sharp outer edge, a first body portion being a layer made from a paint-absorbent, open cell, resilient foam material of a very fine pore size, said layer including a radially outer, axially tapered margin joining said radially outwardly extending flange ~~outermost backing edge at the~~ outermost edge of said foam layer, and a second body portion made from a relatively more coarse, paint-absorbent, open cell flexible foam material, said ~~outer surface of said~~ first and second body portions comprising axially inner and outer layers arranged to form a continuous convex paint application surface.

7. (Currently amended) A pad as defined in claim 6 wherein said center portion of said ~~backer~~ backing portion includes a center bearing adapted to be guidingly received over a spindle on an associated handle unit.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn) A paint application pad as defined in claim 8 herein said pad is circular in plan and includes a generally convex exterior surface facing opposite the portion of said pad in contact with said backing portion.

10. (Withdrawn) An application pad as defined in claim 8 wherein said pad body comprises two layers, each being made from a foam of different porosity.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) A paint application pad adapted for use with thixotropic paints and adapted to provide improved paint retention, said pad having a relatively stiff but flexible backing portion and having

laminated thereto a body portion made from a paint-absorbent, open cell flexible plastic material, said pad presenting a front working face portion adapted to apply paint to a surface to be covered with paint, said body further including a plurality of open passages extending from said working face into said body to form paint retention wells in addition to those formed by the open cell structure of said pad body, said wells being present in an amount of at least ten wells per square inch, said walls each having a diameter of from about 0.010 inches to about 0.100 inches.